



NORTHEAST REGION

We have recently collected information from saltwater recreational anglers in the states of Maine through Virginia allowing us to measure the economic impact of saltwater recreational angling.

You may have helped us with surveys in the past. If so, thanks. Here are some of the things we have learned:

- è In 1998, an estimated 2.7 million people participated in saltwater recreational angling in the Northeast.
- è Bluefish, striped bass, sea bass, summer flounder, and Atlantic cod were the most commonly caught fish.
- è Of those anglers sampled, the most preferred management measure was minimum size limits, while the least preferred was area closures.

We want to hear from you

You may soon receive a survey in the mail. Your input is important to us. We hope that you will view this survey as an opportunity to tell us your opinions about fisheries management.

Please take some time and complete the survey soon after you receive it.

National Marine Fisheries Service



If you have any questions, please contact:

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2/7/00

Attitudes & Awareness: Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

National Marine Fisheries Service



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 and Technology
 (301) 713-2328

Overall Survey Description

GOAL: NMFS' goal for this survey is to collect data from saltwater anglers in the Northeastern United States to:

- è provide descriptive and behavioral information on saltwater recreational fishing participants
- è find out about anglers' preferences for summer flounder regulations
- è provide estimates of the value of recreationally important fisheries
- è analyze fisheries management decisions in light of anglers' preferences about saltwater recreational fishing

HOW: This is being conducted in two parts in conjunction with the NMFS' Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS).

- 1) **Field Survey.** The first part of the survey asks anglers a few short questions in the field by intercept interviewers. This information will be collected to describe saltwater recreational fishing participants. You have probably already completed the first part.
- 2) **Mail Survey.** The second part of the survey asks anglers about a wide range of fishing related activities including targeting, catch and release fishing, and preferences for different conservation management actions.

By completing the second part, you can choose to receive a copy of the results.

Visit our website or write us for more information:

<http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/econ>



We want to hear from you

Thank you for agreeing to participate in our mail survey.

Due to budget limitations, roughly one third of those volunteering will be randomly selected to participate in the mail survey.

Those selected will soon receive a survey in the mail. For those who do not receive our survey, we thank you for your interest and invite you to visit our web page or contact us for survey results.

We hope that the survey will be of interest to you since it asks about your fishing experiences. Best of all, the survey is short!

Please take some time and complete the survey soon after you receive it. Thanks.

